

**MINUTES OF THE PUBLIC ART COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING OF WEDNESDAY AUGUST 23, 2006
CONFERENCE ROOM 360, THIRD FLOOR CITY HALL
2226 SANTA CLARA AVENUE - 7:00 PM**

CONVENE: The meeting was called to order at 7:11 p.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Vice Chair Lee, Commission Members Cervantes and Wolfe

MEMBERS ABSENT: Chair Huston, Commission Member Rosenberg.

STAFF PRESENT: Doug Vu, Planner III, Debbie Gremminger, Recording Secretary

MINUTES:

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of July 26, 2006.

M/S and unanimous to approve the Minutes of the June 28, 2006 Regular meeting. 3-0-2.

Ayes: 3; Noes: 0; Absent: 2; Motion carries.

ORAL COMMUNICATIONS
None.

WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS

A. Final Alameda Towne Centre Resolution. This is for information only. No action needed.

NEW BUSINESS

A. Bridgeside Public Art Proposal - Applicant: Regency Centers.

Doug Vu, Planner III, summarized the staff report. Mr. Vu introduced the applicant, Bruce Qualls of Regency Centers.

Mr. Qualls briefly updated the Commission on the progress of this project since last January. He informed the Commission that the amphitheatre will be available free of charge to recognized arts and performance groups. As previously approved by the Planning Board, the stage area will be approximately 55 feet wide and vary in depth from 20 to 25 feet. The glade area will be approximately 50 feet wide in front and angle towards the rear with a width of 100 feet. The amphitheatre will also be wired for sound and lighting equipment allowing staged performances

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of, but not limited to, theatre productions, musical presentations, literary readings, art shows and demonstrations.

Regency Centers has arranged with the Frank Bette Center for the Arts to present artists' work in two shows within the first twelve months of the Center's opening. In addition, the Alameda Civic Light Opera will be presenting highlights of their productions with two shows also during the first twelve months of the Center's opening. When not used for performance or displays, the amphitheatre can also be used for recreational purposes such as Tai Chi classes.

Information regarding the amphitheatre will also be included in the advertising for the Center's opening and areas within the vicinity of the amphitheatre will be posted stating its availability with contact information to reserve the space. Regency Centers has hired a property manager who is an Alameda resident that will be responsible for community outreach for the Center, including the amphitheatre.

Barbara Price, PK Consultants, briefly reviewed the memo submitted to the Commission on construction management & public outreach. Also provided copies of Planning Board approved Resolution PB-04-64, which lists the conditions of approvals regarding light and sound. Ms. Price stated that they do not foresee having more than fifty of sixty people in the audience at a time.

Vice-Chair Lee informed the Commission that she has received an e-mail from Chair Huston stating her concerns. She would like staff to address them. Her first concern was that the calculations were accurate. Staff stated they were. In response to her question if Staff has went to the site to see if the amphitheatre will create an acoustically viable space, Mr. Vu responded that he cannot say for sure whether the space will be acoustically viable, but feels the trees will serve as a buffer.

Commissioner Wolfe stated that the drawings provided do not show enough details for him to make a decision. He is unclear if the stage will be big enough for the various performances and would like more detail on the sound equipment and whether the lighting equipment will be sufficient for evening shows.

Commissioner Cervantes complimented the applicant on his proposal. In response to her inquiry regarding seating, Ms. Price stated that BCDC will not allow them to provide seating. People may bring blankets or chairs.

Mr. Qualls described the various kinds of trees proposed. He informed the Commission that he does not have a problem changing any of the types of trees selected.

Commissioner Cervantes stated that she would like the amphitheatre to be available to all community groups such as the Boys and Girls Club. She does not want it limited to just performing arts organizations. Mr. Qualls stated that any organization will be free to use this space.

M/S (Wolfe, Lee) to continue this item to allow the applicant to submit a more detailed site plan of the amphitheatre, including additional information on what the stage will look like, section details such as the pitch and what the sign will look like. 3-0-2.

Ayes: 3; Noes: 0; Absent: 2. Motion carries.

The Commission is willing to hold a special meeting to accommodate the applicant's time frame. Staff will poll the Commission of their availability for the first two weeks in September.

OLD BUSINESS

None.

SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS

Mr. Vu informed the Commission that the mural project for the parking garage is no longer going to happen because the parking garage plans have been revised and the sheer wall has been moved.

STAFF COMMUNICATIONS

Staff distributed a memo regarding AB 1234 Ethics training. The City Council is requiring all Boards and Commissions complete this training by January 2007.

Mr. Vu introduced staff member Debbie Gremminger. She will be the new recording secretary.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 8:30 pm.

Respectively submitted by:

Douglass Vu, Planner III
Planning and Building Department

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